WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of therapeutically treating a disease characterized by an amyloid deposit of Aβ in a patient, comprising:

administering a dosage of an Aβ peptide greater than 10 μg and an adjuvant in a regime effective to induce an immune response comprising antibodies to the Aβ peptide, the adjuvant enhancing the immune response to the Aβ peptide, and thereby therapeutically treat the disease in the patient.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the dose of the Aβ peptide administered to the patient is at least 20 μg.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the dose of the Aβ peptide administered to the patient is at least 50 μg.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the dose of the Aβ peptide administered to the patient is at least 100 μg.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the patient is a human.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the disease is Alzheimer's disease.

7. The method of any one of claims 1-6, wherein the patient is asymptomatic.

8. The method of any one of claims 1-6, wherein the patient is under 50.

9. The method of any one of claims 1-6, wherein the patient has inherited risk factors indicating susceptibility to Alzheimer's disease.

10. The method of any one of claims 1-6, wherein the patient has no known risk factors for Alzheimer's disease.

11. The method of any one of claims 1-6, wherein the Aβ peptide is administered in aggregated form.

12. The method of any one of claims 1-6, wherein the Aβ peptide is administered orally, subcutaneously, intramuscularly, topically or intravenously.

13. The method of any one of claims 1-6, wherein the Aβ peptide is administered intramuscularly or subcutaneously.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein the adjuvant and the Aβ peptide are administered together as a composition.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein the adjuvant is administered before the Aβ peptide.

16. The method of claim 1, wherein the adjuvant is administered after the Aβ peptide.

17. The method of claim 1, wherein the adjuvant is alum.

18. The method of claim 1, wherein the adjuvant is MPL.

19. The method of claim 1, wherein the adjuvant is QS21.

20. The method of claim 1, wherein the adjuvant is M-CSF.

21. The method of any one of claims 1-6, wherein the Aβ peptide is administered with GM-CSF in the regime.

22. A method of prophylaxis of a disease characterized by an amyloid deposit of Aβ in a patient, comprising:

administering a dosage of an Aβ peptide greater than 10 μg and an adjuvant in a regime effective to induce an immune response comprising antibodies to the Aβ peptide, the

adjuvant enhancing the immune response to the Aβ peptide, and thereby effect prophylaxis of the disease in the patient.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein the dose of the Aβ peptide administered to the patient is at least 20 μg.

24. The method of claim 22, wherein the dose of the Aβ peptide administered to the patient is at least 50 μg.

25. The method of claim 22, wherein the dose of the Aβ peptide administered to the patient is at least 100 μg.

26. The method of claim 22, wherein the patient is a human.

27. The method of claim 22, wherein the disease is Alzheimer's disease.

28. The method of any one of claims 22-27, wherein the patient is asymptomatic.

29. The method of any one of claims 22-27, wherein the patient is under 50.

30. The method of any one of claims 22-27, wherein the patient has inherited risk factors indicating susceptibility to Alzheimer's disease.

31. The method of any one of claims 22-27, wherein the patient has no known risk factors for Alzheimer's disease.

32. The method of any one of claims 22-27, wherein the Aβ peptide is administered in aggregated form.

33. The method of any one of claims 22-27, wherein the Aβ peptide is administered orally, subcutaneously, intramuscularly, topically or intravenously.

34. The method of any one of claims 22-27, wherein the Aβ peptide is administered intramuscularly or subcutaneously.

35. The method of claim 22, wherein the adjuvant and the Aβ peptide are administered together as a composition.

36. The method of claim 22, wherein the adjuvant is administered before the Aβ peptide.

37. The method of claim 22, wherein the adjuvant is administered after the Aβ peptide.

38. The method of claim 22, wherein the adjuvant is alum.

39. The method of claim 22, wherein the adjuvant is MPL.

40. The method of claim 22, wherein the adjuvant is QS21.

41. The method of claim 22, wherein the adjuvant is M-CSF.

42. The method of any one of claims 22-27, wherein the Aβ peptide is administered with GM-CSF in the regime.

43. A method of therapeutically treating a disease characterized by an amyloid deposit of Aβ in a patient, comprising:

administering an Aβ peptide in a regime effective to induce an immune response comprising antibodies to the Aβ peptide and thereby therapeutically treat the disease in the patient, wherein the dose of the Aβ peptide administered to the patient is at least 50 μg.

44. The method of claim 43, wherein the patient is a human.

45. The method of claim 43, wherein the disease is Alzheimer's disease.

46. The method of any one of claims 43-45, wherein the patient is asymptomatic.

47. The method of any one of claims 43-45, wherein the patient is under 50.

48. The method of any one of claims 43-45, wherein the patient has inherited risk factors indicating susceptibility to Alzheimer's disease.

49. The method of any one of claims 43-45, wherein the patient has no known risk factors for Alzheimer's disease.

50. The method of any one of claims 43-45, wherein the Aβ peptide is administered in aggregated form.

51. The method of any one of claims 43-45, wherein the Aβ peptide is administered orally, subcutaneously, intramuscularly, topically or intravenously.

52. The method of any one of claims 43-45, wherein the Aβ peptide is administered intramuscularly or subcutaneously.

53. The method of any one of claims 43-45, further comprising administering an adjuvant, wherein the adjuvant enhances the immune response to the Aβ peptide.

54. The method of claim 53, wherein the adjuvant and the Aβ peptide are administered together as a composition.

55. The method of claim 54, wherein the adjuvant is administered before the Aβ peptide.

56. The method of claim 54, wherein the adjuvant is administered after the Aβ peptide.

57. The method of claim 54, wherein the adjuvant is alum.

58. The method of claim 54, wherein the adjuvant is MPL.

59. The method of claim 54, wherein the adjuvant is QS21.

60. The method of claim 54, wherein the adjuvant is M-CSF.

61. The method of any one of claims 43-45, wherein the Aβ peptide is administered with GM-CSF in the regime.

62. A method of prophylaxis of a disease characterized by an amyloid deposit of Aβ in a patient, comprising:

administering an Aβ peptide in a regime effective to induce an immune response comprising antibodies to the Aβ peptide and thereby effect prophylaxis of the disease in the patient, wherein the dose of the Aβ peptide administered to the patient is at least 50 μg.

63. The method of claim 62, wherein the patient is a human.

64. The method of claim 62, wherein the disease is Alzheimer's disease.

65. The method of any one of claims 62-64, wherein the patient is asymptomatic.

66. The method of any one of claims 62-64, wherein the patient is under 50.

67. The method of any one of claims 62-64, wherein the patient has inherited risk factors indicating susceptibility to Alzheimer's disease.

68. The method of any one of claims 62-64, wherein the patient has no known risk factors for Alzheimer's disease.

69. The method of any one of claims 62-64, wherein the Aβ peptide is administered in aggregated form.

70. The method of any one of claims 62-64, wherein the Aβ peptide is administered orally, subcutaneously, intramuscularly, topically or intravenously.

71. The method of any one of claims 62-64, wherein the Aβ peptide is administered intramuscularly or subcutaneously.

72. The method of any one of claims 62-64, further comprising administering an adjuvant, wherein the adjuvant enhances the immune response to the Aβ peptide.

73. The method of claim 72, wherein the adjuvant and the Aβ peptide are administered together as a composition.

74. The method of claim 72, wherein the adjuvant is administered before the Aβ peptide.

75. The method of claim 72, wherein the adjuvant is administered after the Aβ peptide.

76. The method of claim 72, wherein the adjuvant is alum.

77. The method of claim 72, wherein the adjuvant is MPL.

78. The method of claim 72, wherein the adjuvant is QS21.

79. The method of claim 72, wherein the adjuvant is M-CSF.

80. The method of any one of claims 62-64, wherein the Aβ peptide is administered with GM-CSF in the regime.